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examiner. It is respectfully submitted that an exhaustive list of attachment methods is not required as these means are well known to the art.

2. The claims 1,2, and 3 have been limited to springy types of metals plastics
3. Shape Memory Alloys (SMA)'s are well known to the art of metallurgy and exhibit shape recovery and superlastic characteristics, both concepts being well understood by metallurgists. Likewise, superlastic nickel-titanium is well known to the art of metallurgy. It is a material that exhibits 6 to 7% strain without yielding, and exerts an approximate constant force on recovery. Superlastic Nickel-Titanium is a type of Shape Memory Allow (SMA).
4. The specification refers to SMA materials and superlastic materials. See Page 6 of the specification.
5. With respect to the examiner's objection that Claim 1 does not include a structure which allows for the transformation of the springy element made of Shape Memory Alloy (SMA), from its Martinsitic (loaded) phase to its austenitic (unloaded) phase :
No structure is required. The material itself exhibits this phased change upon heating by such methods as a hair dryer or liquid bath. This transformation and the accompanying shape recovery is well understood to metallurgists familiar with the art.
6. With respect to the examiner's objection that the size and dimensions of the springy element are not specified, it is submitted that these will depend upon the particular application and the resistance of the tubular element 1, 1a to roll-up and roll-out.

CLAIM REJECTIONS 85 USC SS102

With respect to the examiner's objection to the prior art, Piotti (U.S. 5,606,982).

The said Piotti patent does not teach a method whereby a condom can unfurl automatically, after a restraining means is released, as in the patent being examined. The condom is stretched radially over an annular device, which has an inside diameter which is larger than the diameter of the penis. This allows the

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device and attached rolled condom to easily be mounted on the penis. Once the device and attached condom are mounted on the end of the penis, the device is moved, by the operator, for the head of the penis (the initial position) to the base of the penis (the final position). This causes the condom to unfurl, but only in response to the force applied by the operator in sliding the arrangement from the initial to the final position. This patent being examined dispenses with the annular device completely. The condom is not loaded in a radial direction, but rather the springy element is loaded longitudinally along the length of the condom, or more generally, along the length of the tubular element 1, 1a. The patent being examined teaches a method whereby the condom or tubular element 1, 1a, can automatically unfurl itself, after the initial restraining means are removed, without further intervention by the operator. The Piotti condom does not unfurl itself, but requires the force of the operator. The only advantage of the Piotti method over the unassisted method is that the condom is radially expanded by the annular device, allowing the penis to be inserted easily into the lumen formed in the condom.

I trust these amendments meet the examiner's objections to the patents submitted.

Yours truly



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